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RANGE

GRAZING

RIDER

SERVICE

91 BIRTHDAY PARTIES

In observance of the seventh anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps, the enrollees and their supervisors in 91 Grazing Service camps will this week act as hosts to the people in the neighboring communities who are being invited to the camps for the "open house" celebrations.

These birthday parties will acquaint Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Public with the objectives of the Corps in the National program of conservation of natural resources and American youth and the work that has been accomplished to date. Guided tours through the camps and to the work projects will be important features of the programs. The guide-hosts will explain freely and completely about the work accomplished and the enrollee activities within camp.

The Grazing Service Grows With the CCC

Just one year and three months after the CCC legislation was put into effect the Taylor Grazing Act was passed. The growth of the Grazing Service and of Grazing Service participation in the Civilian Conservation Corps have been closely correlated. Those who attend one of the 91 birthday parties this week will learn that the first "DG" camps were assigned to this Service in May 1935, when seven camps were established in Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, and Nevada. This number was increased to 45 later that same year. The present camp strength is 91 and the conservation and rehabilitation work by these camps on public range areas extends throughout Federal grazing districts in the ten "grazing" States of the West.

Because of the splendid cooperation of local stockmen and district advisors it has been possible to evolve a long-time, practicable and well rounded work program which includes those range improvements most important and essential to the livestock industry dependent upon public range lands. In general these improvements have consisted of water development, fencing, rodent and predatory animal control, truck trails, stock trails and drive-ways, corrals, et cetera. In addition to these range improvements, Grazing Service camps have set an enviable record in emergency activities--they have opened roads and hauled feed to starving livestock stranded during winter blizzards; they have spent many hours fighting brush and timber fires, controlling flood waters, and doing other emergency work tirelessly and without thought of glory or reward.

All these accomplishments are material things--visible monuments to the work of American youth and the Civilian Conservation Corps. But while enrollees have been building reservoirs, stock trails, and other improvements under the supervision of the Grazing Service and other organizations, they have also been "exposed" to a well-planned educational program. They have been encouraged, but not forced, to study one or more subjects offered at evening classes. They have been guided and encouraged to strengthen their minds and bodies and prepare themselves for future civilian life as dignified and valuable citizens. Through the cooperation of the United States Office of Education, and local grade schools, high schools, and colleges some of these young men have been able to win eighth grade certificates and high school diplomas; 96 received college degrees last year. The men who organize and direct this educational program can point to the 31,000 enrollees who last year received discharges from the Corps to accept jobs in civilian life as proof that the program has been successful.

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The Director of the Civilian Conservation Corps, Mr. James J. McEntee, will speak over the Blue Network of the National Broadcasting Company on Sunday, April 7, at 5:15 p.m. This talk will be in connection with the Seventh Anniversary of the Establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

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The initial CCC legislation was enacted on March 31, 1933; the Corps was created by Executive Order on April 5; the first man was enrolled on April 7; and the first camp was established on April 17.

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DO YOU KNOW that in the past five years, Grazing Service CCC camps have completed the following projects:

- 521 spring developments
- 170 wells, with storage facilities
- 893 earth reservoirs
- 9,099,464 acres of rodent control work
- 2,960 miles of range fence
- 252 corrals
- 2,091 miles of stock trails and driveways
- 6,414 miles of truck trails including 185 bridges and 339 cattle guards
- 354,804 acres poisonous plant eradication
- Erosion control work involving:
 - 6,147 permanent check dams
 - 47,198 temporary check dams
 - 276 other flood control structures

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BIRD TOURISTS WELCOME

The most expansive body of water in southwestern New Mexico, covering approximately 300 acres around Bassett Lake 20 miles south of Deming, is being developed by the Grazing Service as a sanctuary for migratory waterfowl.

This improvement furnishes the only suitable resting place for birds migrating northward and southward between the Rio Grande River in Texas and the San Pedro River in Arizona.

Started many years ago by members of the Border Game Protective Association of Deming, the project was eventually abandoned due to lack of funds. Later the site was taken over by a group of local sportsmen who are cooperating with the Grazing Service and local stockmen in raising, widening, and strengthening the unfinished dam as an initial step in converting the impounded area into a combined recreational, flood control, and wildfowl sanctuary.

Work on the dam will include rip-rapping to prevent destructive infiltration. The water area will be fenced against livestock and at the margin will be planted trees, shrubs, and herbs to provide food and shelter for ducks. The labor is being performed by Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees under the supervision of the Grazing Service and the planting is made possible through the cooperation of the Biological Survey.

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FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM

With the election of J. E. Stablein, Regional Grazier, Idaho, on the Board of Directors of the Southern Idaho Timber Protective Association, at Boise, on March 18, Departmental membership on that Board is continued for the 12th year. Mr. A. D. Ryan was a member of the Board in 1930 and participated in the activities of the association from that time until other duties called him to the Washington office.

Grazing districts throughout the West are playing an increasingly important part in the National fire protection program. In several States regional and district officers have been delegated deputy State fire wardens, and serve in that capacity without compensation.

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IT'S A BOY!

Alan Richards, field office inspector, is passing out candy and cigars these days and receiving the congratulations of his friends in the Washington office. The reason: A young son--born March 30!

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SKINNERIES

Jackrabbits may be an expensive nuisance to both New Mexico farmers and stockmen, but if Colorado experiments prove out, the pests can be made to pay for their board. Four jackrabbit "skinneries" have been established in eastern Colorado. During January alone these "skinneries" handled 35,000 jackrabbits, according to the Colorado Fish and Game Department. One of the "skinneries" has offered to sell the State 60 tons of jackrabbit meat to be ground up, mixed with cornmeal and used for food in the State's fish hatcheries. (New Mexico Stockman, March 1940)

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A recent mimeographed bulletin of the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station shows graphically, among other things, the results of studies of livestock use of various classes of grazing lands in the intermountain country. The charts for Idaho show that 1935 charts of stock movements and land uses made by the Grazing Service for Idaho Grazing Districts 2, 3, and 4 are sound. The value of basic data on range management gathered by graziers is here shown. Such practices are to be encouraged. (Range Surveys office, Salt Lake City)

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CONGRATULATIONS

To the enrollees of camps G-65, 81, and 140, Colorado, who participated in an essay and speech contest held at the State Armory in Craig, Colorado, on March 7, which was sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of Moffat County Post No. 62 of the American Legion.

In the essay contest on "The Benefits of Democracy", first prize went to Avon Meyers, G-81; second prize to Richard M. Smethurst, G-140; honorable mention to Billy Burns, G-65. George Janhola, G-81, won the award in the speech contest with his address on "Americanism."

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ANOTHER GRAZING LADY-OF-THE-WEEK!

Beulah D. Johnston (wife of District Grazier John F. Johnston, Colorado) led the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary of Moffat County in the sponsorship of the essay and speech contest mentioned above.

Prior to the contest, a Legionnaire visited each of the three camps and spoke on "Americanism." Approximately forty boys participated in the final contest where they displayed a remarkable grasp of the subject.

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